

In re Patent Application of:

LEPPEK

Serial No. **09/827,386**

Filing Date: **April 5, 2001**

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 remain in this application. Claims 12-15 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 6, 8, and 10 have been amended.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the detailed study of the application and prior art. Applicant notes the rejection of claims 1-5 for the informalities because the claim recites "different data encryption operators, and which may be used, but none of which is necessarily required to encrypt said data into an unintelligible form." Applicant has removed the phrase "and of which may be used, but none of which is necessarily required" to correct the inconsistency.

Also, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 6, 8 and 10 to stress that the data to be transported over the communication path is successively passed through a cascaded sequence of the respectively different encryption operators to produce a multiple encrypted output data stream.

The present invention is more than a simple encryption method and system that encrypts data into a number of different control and encrypted data blocks as data segments of varying length (as set forth in Yorke-Smith), which can be combined by forming their "product" in a

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combination encryption such that two cryptosystems "commute"
(as set forth in Stinson).

At most, Stinson teaches a simple step of combining two cryptosystems into a combination by multiplying or forming their "product." The present invention, on the other hand, is a much more sophisticated system that uses "virtual" encryption. In the present invention, the overall encryption operator does not actually perform any encrypting of data, but instead, the system assembles selected ones of encryption mechanisms into a cascaded sequence of successively different encryption operators, each which operates on the data to realize a scrambled data stream. The success of the encryption operator assembly mechanism of the present invention does not rely upon the sophistication or complexity of any given encryption operator within its database. The key to success of the present invention is the fact that the data stream is wrapped or encrypted multiple times prior to transmission, with each successive wrap of the data presenting an encryptor that is different from the previous operator in the sequence. This is now clearly set forth in the amended claims, which recite, for example, successively passing the data stream through the cascaded sequence.

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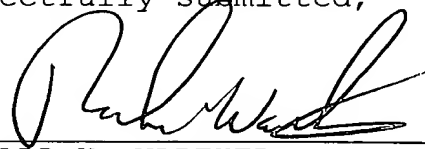
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Nowhere do Yorke-Smith or Stinson teach or suggest the present claimed invention. At most, the combination of Yorke-Smith and Stinson would yield a simple product cryptosystem formed from two standards multiplied together. Stinson is a simple multiplicative cipher that is well known to those skilled in the art.

Accordingly, Applicant contends that the present case is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due. If the Examiner has any questions or suggestions for placing this case in condition for allowance, the undersigned attorney would appreciate a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: **MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450**, on this 5th day of February, 2004.

Julia Lalan